

Cherokee County

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Community Health Needs Assessment Snapshot

Promote Healthy Behaviors

Problems/Needs:

- Weight management services are lacking. A need for education related to quick nutritious meal preparation that is economical has been identified.
- Drug and Alcohol Use Education lacking in prenatal education
- High number of 20 years and under pregnancies
- Smoking cessation- no available direct cessation counseling
- Elder Day Care Services Lacking
- Lack of formal bike trails

Prevent Injuries

Problems/Needs:

- Lack of unified Shaken Baby Syndrome education
- Lack of a location to drop off prescription, street drugs, and over the counter medications

Protect Against Environmental Hazards

Problems/Needs:

- High number of children with elevated lead levels. Cherokee County lead level for children before the age of six is 6.1% as of 12/31/09. The national average is 1.6%

Prevent Epidemics and the Spread of Disease

Problems/Needs:

None identified

Prepare for, Respond to, and Recover from Public Health Emergencies

Problems/Needs:

None identified

Strengthen the Public Health Infrastructure

Problems/Needs:

- Access to Public Transportation: Siouxland Regional Transit System is very expensive & does not run after 4:30 p.m. SRTS is \$3.50 each way. People are not making appointments with community partners due to transportation expenses.
- Lack of mental health providers in Cherokee County.

Community Health Improvement Plan

Goal	Strategies	Who is responsible?	When? (Timeline)
Impact health by providing quick, nutritious meal plans as an alternative to fast and prepared foods in an effort to reduce dependence on them.	Provide the community with 24 recipes over the five year period. Make the process easy! Involve local grocers. Recipes will be available in store/online and in the Cherokee Area Advertiser.	Tami M. Glienke, Steph Jacobson & Lisa Shiley	Gathering and review of recipes will start June 2011.
	At each local grocery store highlight one recipe/month. Green bag will include featured dry ingredients and recipe. The shopper will need to pick up perishables. Past recipes will be available.		
	Host a community wide call for suitable recipes, crediting those who submitted each recipe.		
	Host a meal preparation demonstration and or provide in store samples one time at each participating location.		
	Cherokee Regional Medical Center's dietitian will review all recipes for nutritional value.		
	Market through KCHE radio, CRMC web site, & the local papers.		
	Research grant opportunities.		

Goal	Strategies	Who is responsible?	When? (Timeline)
Reduce stress related to infant crying by educating parents about normal crying patterns & coping mechanisms in an effort to prevent Shaken Baby Syndrome.	Implement The Period of Purple Crying program at Cherokee Regional Medical Center to provide Dose 1 education.	CRMC OB department	Start April 2011
	Provide reinforcement through Dose 2 education requesting that all infant caregivers see this information.	WIC, Home Choice, Healthy Families & local physician clinics	Spring 2011
	Dose 3, increase public awareness	CRMC Marketing	Start early summer 2011

Goal	Strategies	Who is responsible?	When? (Timeline)
Reduce prenatal use of drugs and alcohol by showing the resulting physical defects affecting infants.	Apply for a local community grant to fund the Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Manikin/ Drug-Affected Demonstrator	CRMC Public Health	Grant application submitted February 2011.
	Establish a loan closet at CRMC Public Health making Reality Works infants available to community partners for use: CRMC OB, CRMC post partum visits, Family Drug Court, Mid Sioux, Drug Endangered Children, Elevate Program, and Family Circles.	CRMC Public Health	Pending grant approval.
	Use them at WIC clinics & with the Healthy Families Program		
	Make available to Cherokee County area school systems.		
	Use in babysitting clinics sponsored by CRMC and Cherokee County Extension Service.		

Goal	Strategies	Who is responsible?	When? (Timeline)
Increase lead exposure awareness.	Educate the county using radio spots, and newspaper press releases. CRMC Public Health will provide state approved handouts for distribution yearly at kindergarten roundup. Provide education through CRMC website.	CRMC Public Health with assistance from Cherokee County Environmental Management Agency	Annually each spring starting 2011.

Goal	Strategies	Who is responsible?	When? (Timeline)
Research possibility of public transportation after 4:30 pm.	Start a task force of interested community members.	CHNA-HIP Stakeholders group	2011-2015